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Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of distributing electronic media, ~~the method comprising the steps of:~~  
    downloading a media file including the file  
    comprising an integral decryption engine and encrypted  
    media content;  
    requesting a decryption key from a remote server;  
    and  
    responding to receipt of said decryption key from  
    said remote server by:  
        decrypting said media content using said  
        integral decryption engine and the decryption key.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, ~~further~~  
    comprising ~~the step subsequent to said step of~~  
    decrypting, of: after decrypting the media content,  
    viewing said media content by executing viewer software,  
    the viewer software also integral with said media file  
    ~~whereby a decrypted copy of said media content is not~~  
    stored locally.

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3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step subsequent to said step of decrypting, of: , after decrypting the media content,~~ viewing said media content by executing external viewer software linked to said media file, ~~whereby a decrypted copy of said media content is not stored locally.~~
4. (Currently Amended) A method of managing distribution of proprietary electronic media, the method comprising the steps of:  
    downloading a single file, the single file comprising an integral decryption engine, encrypted media content and integral media playback software, the single file executable independently of other programs to:  
        ~~decrypt an integral media file the media~~  
        content using an the integral decryption engine and  
        a decryption key obtained separately from the file;  
        and  
        view said decrypted media file the media  
        content using an the integral viewer media playback  
        software.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein said ~~step of downloading the single file~~ comprises the ~~step of:~~ downloading said single file from a remote server via a communication network.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 further comprising ~~the step of:~~ downloading said decryption key from said remote server via said communication network.

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7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6 further comprising ~~the steps of:~~  
requesting ~~a~~ the decryption key from ~~a~~ the remote server; and  
said remote server responding to said request and responding to a digital wallet having sufficient funds, by ~~returning~~ making said decryption key available for download.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, further comprising ~~the step of:~~ bonding said media file ~~the decryption key~~ to a computing device from which said request has initiated requested the decryption key.
9. (Currently Amended) A method of securely distributing media files, ~~the method~~ comprising the steps of:  
generating an executable file comprising encrypted media content and integral media playback software, encrypted media file which will execute the file executable independently of other programs to play only a portion of the corresponding original media file encrypted media content, without use of a decryption key.
10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said ~~step of bonding the decryption key to the computing device~~ comprises ~~the step of:~~ communicating bonding information relating to the computing device back to said remote server for storage.
11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5 ~~6~~, wherein said remote server tracks ~~an originating web site a number of decryption key downloads relating to the single file~~ 7 enabling it to distribute revenues to rights holders.

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12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein said media file includes comprises Web links to one or more of: an artist associated with the media content, a retailer associated with the media content, a distributor associated with the media content and a record label associated with the media content.
- 13-16. (Cancelled)
17. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein the file is executable independently of other programs and wherein requesting the decryption key and decrypting the media content are accomplished by executing the file.
18. (New) A method according to claim 17 wherein the file also comprises integral media player software.
19. (New) A method according to claim 18 wherein executing the file also accomplishes execution of the integral media player software and playback of the media content.
20. (New) A method according to claim 2 wherein decrypting the media content and viewing the media content are accomplished without storing a decrypted copy of the media content locally.
21. (New) A method according to claim 3 wherein decrypting the media content and viewing the media content are accomplished without storing a decrypted copy of the media content locally.

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22. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein the decryption key is bonded to a computing device which requested the decryption key.
23. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein downloading the file comprises downloading the file from the remoter server.
24. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein downloading the file comprises downloading the file from a second user.
25. (New) A method according to claim 24 wherein downloading the file from the second user comprises using a peer to peer network.
26. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein a portion of the media content is previewable prior to decrypting the media content using the integral decryption engine and the decryption key.
27. (New) A method according to claim 1 comprising previewing a portion of the media content prior to decrypting the media content using the integral decryption engine and the decryption key.
28. (New) A method according to claim 4 wherein the single file is executable to view the media content using the integral media playback software without storing a decrypted copy of the media content locally.
29. (New) A method according to claim 4 wherein downloading the single file comprises downloading the single file from a second user.

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30. (New) A method according to claim 29 comprising downloading the decryption key from a remote server, the remote server different than the second user.
31. (New) A method according to claim 30 wherein the remote server tracks a number of decryption key downloads relating to the single file.
32. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein a portion of the media content is previewable prior to decrypting the media content using the integral decryption engine and the decryption key.
33. (New) A method according to claim 1 comprising previewing a portion of the media content prior to decrypting the media content using the integral decryption engine and the decryption key.